

Kindly enter the following amendments to the claims.

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim 15 wherein said noble gas is argon.

Claim 3 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim [[1]] 15 wherein said microorganism is anthrax bacterium, *Bacillus anthracis*.

Claim 4 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim [[1]] 15 wherein said microorganism is Norwalk or Norwalk-like viruses.

Claim 5 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim [[1]] 15 wherein said microorganism is Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus.

Claim 6 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim [[1]] 15 wherein said microorganism is *Legionellae*.

Claim 7 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim [[1]] 15 wherein said microorganism is mold and mold spores.

Claim 8 (original)

A composition according to claim 2 wherein said ratio of argon:chlorine in said mixture is 20:1.

**Claim 9 (currently amended)**

A composition according to claim 2 wherein said chlorine is present in an amount of about [[0.1]] 1.0 to 3%.

**Claim 10 (cancelled)**

**Claim 11 (cancelled)**

**Claim 12 (withdrawn)**

A method for removing microorganisms which comprises introducing an effective amount of a composition according to claim 1 into the air in a room, building, ship, county jail, shelter, hospital, clinic, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, restaurant, school, hotel or HVAC system and the like, where said microorganisms are located, allowing the composition to remain for a time sufficient to substantially completely eliminate said microorganisms and then ventilating said room, building, ship, jail, shelter, hospital, clinic, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, restaurant, school, hotel or HVAC system..

**Claim 13 (withdrawn)**

A method for removing microorganisms which comprises introducing an effective amount of a composition according to claim 2 into the air in a room, building, ship, county jail, shelter, hospital, clinic, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, restaurant, school, hotel or HVAC system and the like, where said microorganisms are located, allowing the composition to remain for a time sufficient to substantially completely eliminate said microorganisms and then ventilating said room, building, ship or HVAC system and the like.

**Claim 14 (withdrawn)**

A method according to claim 12 wherein said argon and chlorine are admixed directly before their use.

**Claim 15 (new)**

A composition effective against microorganism and other pest organisms comprising a dispersion of chlorine gas in a noble gas formed by mixing the gases directly before use wherein said chlorine is present in said dispersion in a ratio of 20:1 (argon:chlorine).